



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1884-07-14

**Letter from [Louisiana E. Strentzel] to [Louie Strentzel Muir],
[1884] Jul 14.**

Louisiana E. Strentzel

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Alhambra July 14th

Dear Mamma,

The baby is just as well and sweet and happy as she can be. She has always been perfectly contented even since you went away, and I think she would continue to be so were you to stay away a month. She writes letters every day to "dear Mamma and Papa" and is always asking "when you are coming home." Spends the time in all manner of plays, cooking on her little stove, setting the table with her little dishes, looking over the pictures, and helps me at everything I have to do. Last night she sat with her Grandpa writing a letter to "Mrs. Postington" until she got so sleepy she had to go to bed. Grandpa and I take her out walking in the fresh air several times every day, and never leave her a moment alone. The new cook is very kind to her, and wants to do all she can for her, but baby will not make up with her nor go near her.

We have had but one letter from you, and none from John. Why does he not write? You wrote that the trip was too hard for John, that he was not feeling well, but you did not say how you stood it yourself. We are both feeling anxious about you, not hearing from you. Papa sent a telegram yesterday but you did not answer, so he thinks you have left the valley and gone somewhere else. We want you to stay as long as you like and see all you possibly can, for you have waited a long while for this pleasure.

I was over yesterday and your home, and so far as I can see everything is all right. Ah-jing feeds the chickens and milks the cow, and Tim waters the flowers. Alphonso sleeps in the little room and works all day. Jimmy came back last week stayed a few days, and left again. The other Chinamen say he got over so much money from them, then left. I am glad he has gone, I think the house is safer without him. I have brought John's papers and all your most valuable things over here, and have kept the house locked up as well as I could. You know the locks are none of them very safe. May God bless and protect you both from all danger. Your Mother.